

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/798,334	CAMPENHAUSEN ET AL.	
	Examiner James Golden	Art Unit 2187	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment received July 16, 2006.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This communication is in response to the reply received July 13, 2006. The application 10/798334 has a total of 7 claims pending; there are 2 independent claims and 5 dependent claims.

Claim Objections

1. The corrections to the claims are accepted, and the objections are hereby withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejections of claims 1-7 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 1-7 have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-7 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. With respect to claim 1, the claim limitations are deemed allowable over the prior art of record as the prior art neither anticipates nor renders obvious at least the combination with the inclusion in the claims of "a test circuit... operable to... store an address identification code for one of the redundant units in the memory unit for subsequently writing the identification code to the one of the redundant units"

(lines 12-15). Support for these limitations in the specification may be found on page 4, lines 5-22 and page 7, line 6 -- page 8, line 7.

The distinction between this limitation and the cited prior art is highlighted in page 6, paragraph 3 -- page 7, paragraph 1 of applicant's arguments:

"However, the semiconductor memory device disclosed by Nakaoka does not include anything analogous to the claimed identification code, which allows one to discriminate between the redundant units and ascertain which memory cell in the normal memory cell array is replaced by which redundant memory cell of the redundant memory cell array. For this purpose, the integrated memory of the present invention is operable in a test mode in which an identification code by which the redundant units are discriminated from each other and which represents a position of the redundant unit in the redundant memory cell array is written to the redundant unit, as recited in claims 1 and 7."

5. Claims 2-6 are allowed by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.
6. With respect to claim 7, the claim limitations are deemed allowable over the prior art of record as the prior art neither anticipates nor renders obvious at least the combination with the inclusion in the claims of "writing the identification code to one of the redundant units" (line 16). Support for this limitation in the specification and applicant's arguments may be found as above (see paragraph 4).
7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

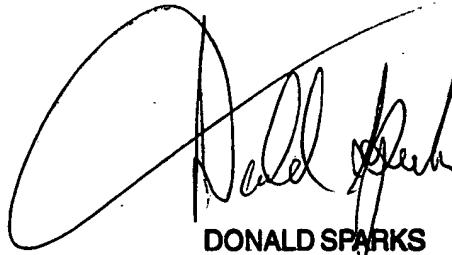
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Golden whose telephone number is 571-272-5628. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on 571-272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

James R. Golden
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2187

September 27, 2006



DONALD SPARKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER